

INFORMATION REPORT

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CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT Collection of Corn in Montenegro

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1. A week for the forcible collection of corn was decreed in the People's Republic of Montenegro from 16 to 22 January 1950. Collection was a failure, and Party authorities and organizations disapproved of the entire procedure. The committees organized to collect the corn were given no assistance by local government offices and organizations.
2. Because of the poor results, the week was extended until the end of January. Up to the present, very little corn has been collected throughout the country because the farmers have refused to contribute. Only in the vicinity of Cetinje was the collection more or less satisfactory.
3. Government officials explained that the various committees organized for the collection existed only on paper and are to blame for the failure. It was decreed that the committees were to be made up of members of the Party, members of the People's Front, and inspectors selected from the people, but no explanation of the objective of the collection was given to the farmers. Local Government and Party offices in the vicinity of Kolasin and Ivangrad were accused of having been oblivious of their duty to the Government and of causing great damage to the country's produce by their negligence.
4. The same situation existed in other localities where the collection was scheduled for 15 December 1949. In these cases the reason for the failure was given as bad weather. Once again, however, the farmers refused to have anything to do with the collection and turned in nothing.
5. Titograd was an exception to the rule. In that city, many members of the Party and the People's Front united and went from one town to another forcing the farmers to turn over their corn. The towns of Brskut, Cerovice, Mataguzi, Ubla, Golubovci and Tuze turned in their quota of corn as a result of the pressure brought to bear upon them.

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